GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3577
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2014
UPLIFTMENT OF TRSBALS
Sethi Shri Arjun Charan

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up any special agencies for upliftment of tribals in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated to the agencies and their effectiveness for the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether the Government has report on Scheduled Tribes category vacant posts in these implementing agencies engaged in scheduled areas/tribal areas and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government proposes to set up tribal chair in each and every university of the country for tribal research and development and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA)

(a) & (b): Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) / Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP), Micro Projects etc. were created in 1970s and 1980s as additional institutions for delivery of public goods and services to Scheduled Tribes. These institutions had weakened over a period of time. Steps have been taken during the current financial year (CFY) to strengthen these institutions with adequate skilled manpower and infrastructure to improve service delivery. As matter of policy, Ministry has decided to allocate 20% of grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution whenever States/UTs have made a demand in this regard. A statement of allocation of funds made to the States for strengthening of agencies is at Annexure.

Further, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, promotes entrepreneurial development amongst Scheduled Tribes through National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC). This Corporation provides concessional financial assistance to individuals or groups of STs for undertaking self-employment Income Generation Activities through its channelizing agencies. The concessional financial assistance provided by NSTFDC through its channelizing agencies during last two year and current financial year for entrepreneurial development of Scheduled Tribes is as under;

Financial Year	Financial Assistance Provided (Rs. in crore)
2011-12	113.07
2012-13	132.78
2013-14	141.35
2014-15 (upto 30.11.2014)	6.43

The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) is another agency under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. TRIFED functions as a service provider and market developer and also as a capacity builder for Scheduled Tribe Artisans and gatherers of Minor Forest Produce (MFP). Broadly, the TRIFED is involved in the following activities:-

(i) Retail Marketing Development Activity

(ii) MFP Marketing Development Activity

(iii) Vocational Training, Skill Up-gradation and Capacity Building of ST Artisans and MFP Gatherers

(iv) Research & Development/Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Activity Amount of fundreleased to TRIFED during the last three years and the current year is as under:

(Rs. in Crore)			
2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (As on 11.12.2014)

22.00 47.24 34.31 26.25

(c): One post in the Grade of Commercial Assistant/Assistant/Accountant and Three posts in the Grades of Junior Commercial Assistant/Junior Assistant are vacant in TRIFED. As far as the agencies working under the control of State Governments are concerned, the information is not centrally maintained.

(d) : There is no such proposal under consideration of this Ministry.